

Claims

1. ~~(-)-cis-4-Amino-1-(2-hydroxymethyl-1,3-oxathiolane-5-yl)-(1H)-pyrimidin-2-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.~~

2. ~~A compound as claimed in Claim 1 substantially free of the corresponding (+)-enantiomer.~~

3. ~~A compound as claimed in Claim 1 or Claim 2 wherein the (+)-enantiomer is present in an amount of no more than about 5% w/w.~~

4. ~~A compound as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 3 wherein the (+)-enantiomer is present in an amount of no more than about 2% w/w.~~

5. ~~A compound as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 4 wherein the (+)-enantiomer is present in an amount of less than about 1% w/w.~~

6. ~~A compound as claimed in Claim 1 in substantially pure form.~~

7. ~~A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 6 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.~~

8. ~~A compound as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 6 for use in therapy.~~

9. ~~Use of a compound as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 6 for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a viral infection.~~

10. ~~A method for the treatment of a mammal, including man, suffering from or susceptible to viral infection comprising administration of an effective amount of a compound as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 6.~~

- 31 -

5 *add 11*  
11. A method for the preparation of a compound as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 6 which comprises separation of the (-)-enantiomer from a mixture also containing the (+)-enantiomer.

10 12. A method as claimed in *add 11* Claim 11 wherein the mixture of compounds is a racemic mixture.

15 *add 12*  
13. A method as claimed in ~~Claim 11 or Claim 12~~ the separation is effected by chiral HPLC.

20 14. A method as claimed in *add 13* Claim 13 wherein the HPLC employs as a stationary phase acetylated  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin or cellulose triacetate.

25 *add 14*  
15. A method as claimed in ~~Claim 11 or Claim 12~~ wherein the separation is effected by enzyme-mediated enantioselective catabolism.

30 16. A method is claimed in Claim 15 wherein the enzyme is employed in immobilised form.

35 17. A method as claimed in Claim 15 or Claim 16 wherein the enzyme is cytidine deaminase. ✓

40 18. A method as claimed in *add 15* Claim 15 or Claim 16 wherein the enzyme is a 5'-nucleotidase. ✓

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